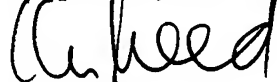


REMARKS

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/255,295, which is currently allowed. Claims 10-13 and 42-58 of the present application are identical to allowed claims in the '295 application except that the claims in the present application use the words magnetic recording medium whereas the '295 claims use the words magnetic disk. Claims 1-5 and 7-9 of the present application are identical claims 1-8 of the grandparent '719 patent, except claims 1-5 and 7-9 of the present application use the words magnetic recording medium, whereas claims 1-8 of the '719 patent use the words magnetic disk. It is respectfully submitted that the present claims are patentable for the same reasons as the '295 and '719 claims.

Claims 59 and 60 are merely dependent claims. They are supported, for example, by Fig. 2 (see layer 102) and associated text. They are patentable for at least the same reasons as the claims upon which they depend.

Respectfully submitted,



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